

The November 16, 2016 Regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Tollisen in the A. James Bold Meeting Room at the New Town Hall with the following members present:

Kevin J. Tollisen, Supervisor
Paul L. Hotaling, Councilman
Daphne V. Jordan, Councilwoman
John P. Wasielewski, Councilman
Jeremy W. Connors, Councilman
Lyn A. Murphy, Town Attorney
Cathy L. Drobny, Deputy Town Attorney
Lynda A. Bryan, Town Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE and MOMENT OF SILENCE

PRESENTATION: HALFMOON CELEBRATIONS ASSOCIATION

Supervisor Tollisen introduced David Maxfield, President of the Halfmoon Celebrations

David Maxfield, President of the Halfmoon Celebrations read the following:

Good Evening, my name is David Maxfield and I live at 83 Guideboard Road, Halfmoon, New York. I am a volunteer on Halfmoon Celebrations. For those of you that don't know what Halfmoon Celebrations is, we are a not-for-profit organization that is run by town volunteers who have the commitment to deliver FREE family fun programs to our residents that build on the foundation of a strong neighborly community.

These events would not be possible without these passionate volunteers and they are: Traci McCumber, Mara Sweeter, Liz Meier, Anna Nickerson, Emma Lester, Paul Hotaling, Ed Jordan, Kristen Woodworth, John Sullivan, Eric Clark, Donna DeVoe, Emily Meier, Joyce Varriale, Mary Wilcox, Erin Palmer, Pat Harblin, Francyne Cunningham, Melissa Marcella & Marlene.

We would also would like to thank the behind the scenes people and departments if you will that provide extra help to us, when needed, they are: Lisa Perry, Kevin Tollisen, the Parks Department, The Buildings Department and the Recreation Department.

This association also could not be possible without our local sponsors. This year we were able to obtain 30 local sponsorships to make these free events possible for our town and the surrounding communities. So I ask you to please, support these following local sponsors: 1st National Bank of Scotia, Architectural Glass and Metal, Bast Hatfield, Bruce Tanski Construction & Development LLC, Capital Title Services LLC, CHA, Carola, Bagnoli and Tollisen Law Firm, DeCrecente Distributing, First Niagara Bank, Halfmoon Attorney Lyn Murphy, Halfmoon Council Woman Daphne Jordan, Halfmoon Town Supervisor Kevin Tollisen, Holiday Inn Express, Jack Byrne, LCS&Z LLP Certified Accountants and Consultants, McDonald's of Exit 8 Grooms

Road, Prestige Vending, Refreshment & Catering Services, Price Chopper, Santore's World Famous Fireworks, Senator Kathy Marchione, Stewart's Shops, The Connors Agency, The Maids, The Chamber of Southern Saratoga County, The Tire Warehouse, The Town of Halfmoon, Toyota of Clifton Park, Trick Shots, Trustco Bank, Waste Connections (Colonie Landfill), and Wojtowicz Trucking.

Halfmoon Celebrations is going to have to make some modifications for the 2017 season. These changes are required to keep Halfmoon Celebrations successful. Due to budget restraints and an overwhelming amount of personal health issues this year that has affected our committee it is essential to cut back on the amount the FREE activities from the 12 we provide down to the 3 most popular events. They are the Easter "Egg" Stravaganza which currently draws 1,700-2,000 neighbors, the Fall Festival which draws 3,500-4,000 neighbors and the Holiday Celebrations which draws 1,700-2,000 neighbors. These three events are normally two hour events, we are pleased to reveal that next year these three events will be four hours long. As a result, this will then double the funds required to run these events. The committee has decided to eliminate the following activities for 2017: All concerts in the park, all movies nights, the fireworks show, and the puppet show. With the possibilities of also eliminating the Holiday Stop & Shop, and the Outside Home Decorating Contest. The Holiday Stop & Shop and the Outside Home Decorating Contest are new this year and will be first on the list for consideration of reinstatement for 2017 should our budget restraints and committee limitations allow. These decision were not made lightly and affect us all deeply, however sometimes tough decisions have to be made in an effort to maintain our mission and not compromise our quality or effectiveness.

Our next few events coming up for the remainder of the year are as follows:

Holiday Stop & Shop, right here are the Town Hall on Small Business Saturday, the 26th of November from 10:00am until 3:00pm. We will have various vendors offering a wide assortment of exceptional items and raffle items. The Girl Scouts of troop 2154 will be offering gift wrapping and you set the fee by a donation. Bring in ANY gifts that you have already purchased or have Saturdays' purchases wrapped before you leave! All the proceeds will help raise money for the troop to adopt a family for the holidays. They will also be selling gift tags and handmade bows. Light refreshments will be available to purchase.

Our Outside Holiday Home Decorating Contest will be held on Saturday, December 17th from 6:00pm until 9:00pm. Participation is open to all Halfmoon residents within the boundaries of the Town of Halfmoon. Any Halfmoon town resident wishing to participate should complete the application located on the web or copies are available at the Town Hall. Be sure to return the application by Friday, December 9th, 2016 to be entered into the contest. Judging will take place after dark on Saturday December 17th, 2016. Winners will be announced and notified by December 23rd. There will be (3) winners. We are looking for the following: Most Festive; Most Unique & Most Traditional. Each winner will receive a \$50 VISA gift card.

So if you look around the Town Hall you can see the busy elves of Halfmoon Celebrations worked tirelessly to decorate the town hall this past Saturday to get ready for our upcoming Holiday Celebration to be held on Saturday, December 3rd from 4:00pm until 6:30pm right here in our Town Hall. We will have several family fun activities such as Face Painting, a Balloon Artists, Temporary Airbrush Tattoos and a Photo

booth. We will also have Horse drawn wagon rides outside on the courtyard, our holiday music will be courtesy of B95.5 Furthermore, Jodie Fitz from Price Chopper will be here making a fresh snack. The Home Bureau will be selling refreshments to help raise money for their organization. Of course we will have Santa here with some of his friends from the North Pole. This year the pictures with Santa will be held over at the Justice Building right next door to help with some of the crowding we have had over the past few years. I sure hope that all of you can join us for this FREE, family, friendly, fun event.

Lastly, after the Holiday Celebration, please join us for the 13th annual Holiday Memories program where we light the town tree and memorial trees simultaneously in memories of our loved ones that we lost, but are never forgotten. This ceremony is such a touching ceremony that not only does it bring family and friends together, but it brings our neighbors together as well as one strong loving community. As a community it seems that we support each other during the holiday season, for what can be a sorrowing time for many of us because we have lost loved ones that are so near and dear to us. Once you attend this ceremony you will see why it has been going strong for the past 13 years.

So on behalf of Halfmoon Celebrations, I would like to wish you all a very Happy, Healthy and Safe Holiday Season!

Thank you!

Supervisor Tollisen: Dave, on behalf of the Town Board I would like to thank you and your committee for all of the events that you have done throughout the year. All of these events have been very well attended by our residents. People look forward to them and we are deeply appreciative. We want to say thank you to each of you. There are some refreshments in the back and also a thank you from my family to you there is a box of chocolates for each of the volunteers. Please take one with our thanks and appreciation. Just look around the Town Hall with all of the decorations that you have out up, we appreciate it very much. It takes a lot of thought and effort to make sure that all of these things are in the right places.

PROCLAMATION THAT THE TOWN OF HALFMOON IS A PURPLE HEART TOWN

Supervisor Tollisen: The next thing on our agenda is a proclamation proclaiming the Town of Halfmoon as a Purple Heart Town. With us this evening is Scott Kyle and the Reverend Charlene Robbins, Ed is here and a few others. Scott and I met a month or so ago and one of the things that Scott was talking about was making Halfmoon a Purple Heart Town. After speaking with the Town Board it was a resounding YES that we wanted to be a Purple Heart Town. We have a Town Board resolution this evening that we would like to present to you Scott and to your group.

Supervisor Tollisen read the following Proclamation:

TOWN OF HALFMOON TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Halfmoon has great admiration and the utmost gratitude for all of the men and women who have selflessly served their country and this community by joining the military; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in present use and was initially created as the Badge of Military Merit by General George Washington in 1782; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart was the first American service award or decoration made available to the common soldier and is specifically awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces who have been wounded or paid the ultimate sacrifice in combat with a declared enemy of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Military Order of the Purple Heart is to foster an environment of goodwill among the combat-wounded veteran members and their families, promote patriotism, support legislative initiatives, and most importantly – make sure we never forget; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Halfmoon appreciates the sacrifices our Purple Heart recipients made in defending our freedoms and believe it is important that we acknowledge them for their courage and show them the honor and support they have earned.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the Town of Halfmoon is a Purple Heart Town.
2. That the Town of Halfmoon hereby recognizes the sacrifices that the Purple Heart recipients have made in defending our freedoms and acknowledges their service and courage while protecting our country.

DATED: November 2, 2016

RESOLUTION NO. 382

Offered by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Wasielewski, seconded by Councilwoman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Hotaling: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

RESOLVED, that the Town Board recognizes the sacrifices that the Purple Heart recipients have made in defending our freedoms and acknowledges their service and courage while protecting our country.

Councilman Connors: I would like to say thank you for driving this effort within our town. It will be an honor for everyone who is a recipient of a Purple Heart. I know that my father who was a Purple Heart recipient a few times would have been honored to have this in our town. I would like to thank you.

Councilman Wasielewski: As a 24 year veteran with two visits to the desert myself, I have nothing but the highest respect and honor for you and the sacrifices that you have given not only to the country but to Halfmoon. I can't thank you enough for your service to your country. Thank you for this honor and I wholeheartedly support this resolution.

Councilwoman Jordan: I would also like to thank you for your service. You have seen and done things that most of us can't even imagine. I can't thank you enough. I wish that in today's world the burning flags that some of the people do, would consider you and stop that. Thank you.

Councilman Hotaling: The words thank you is just not enough.

POLL OF THE BOARD

Councilman Connors	Aye
Councilwoman Jordan	Aye
Councilman Wasielewski	Aye
Councilman Hotaling	Aye
Supervisor Tollisen	Aye

Supervisor Tollisen: Would you and your group want to come up for a photo. Scott, as we have discussed, the town has ordered a sign that will be placed in town stating that the Town of Halfmoon is a Purple Heart Community for all to see. That is on order and I was hoping that it would be here tonight and is not.

Scott Kyle: I appreciate this, I get emotional. First of all, I would like to recognize Reverend Robbins who is a Gold Star Mom. If anyone doesn't know a Gold Star Family or Mon has lost a child in war or combat. So I would like to recognize Reverend Robbins. Also Don Weinfelder, a veteran of Iraq and Mr. Jordan right here in your hometown. I would like to thank you. Ed has nothing but great things to say about this town and the support that it gives its veterans. If you ever need a tourism board member, he's the guy! You guys do great things for this town, it's commendable. For a thank you for all you do and I think that it is a great honor for the town, I give you each a Proud Supporter of the Purple Heart pin. We seek out towns that go above and beyond what the state says you have to do and this is one

of those communities. We also have a plaque from Chapter 446 for your awesome foyer for a community that goes above and beyond. Again, thank you very much!

Supervisor Tollisen: Scott, I am not sure if we talked about it or not but the Town of Halfmoon does not really have a large Veteran's Memorial in town but we are fixing it. We are in design phase right now, but next year there is going to be a very appropriate memorial for veterans in the Halfmoon Town Park. We have a very active committee. We have the Commander of the American Legion involved in it and the Commander of the VFW Post, the Director of the Saratoga County Veteran's Agency is involved also. We want to make sure that we do this right, and we want to make sure that we respect each and every veteran. We have a fantastic memorial that is being set up which we are looking to unveil next year in the spring. I know that I'm energetic about this but we want it to be done next year and we hope that you guys come to it because you definitely deserve it. Thank you.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

Senior Center is hosting their Holiday Bazaar on November 19th from 9-2. Come and see all the Crafters', Quilters and Jewelry Makers along with Grandma's Treasures and the best Baked Goods!

The Town of Halfmoon Recreation Department has a donation box in the foyer of Town Hall and is accepting Thanksgiving food items until November 18th for delivery of Thanksgiving Baskets on the 19th.

Clifton Park – Halfmoon Library is sponsoring a Volunteer Fair for Teens and Adults on Saturday, November 19th from 1 - 3pm.

Halfmoon Celebrations will hold Holiday Stop and Shop on November 26th "Small Business Saturday" from 10 am to 3 pm at the Halfmoon Town Hall. Various vendors will offer a wide assortment of exceptional items and raffle items.

Holiday Party with Memorial Tree Lighting on December 3rd from 4:00 – 6:30 at Town Hall and Tree Lighting 6:30 - 7:30 at Abele Memorial Park

Outside Holiday Home Decorating Contest will be held on December 17th from 6-9:00 pm. Completed applications will be accepted up to Friday December 9th to be entered into the contest!

TOWN MEETINGS:

Town Board Meetings: 1st & 3rd Wednesday of month at 7:00 pm except May 7th at 2:00 pm

Pre-meeting at 6:30 pm

Zoning Board of Appeals: 1st Monday of month at 7:15 pm. Pre-meeting at 7:00 pm

Planning Board Meeting: 2nd & 4th Monday of month at 7:00 pm. Pre-meeting at 6:00 pm

Board of Assessment Review: 4th Tuesday in May

Senior Center Business Meeting: 1st Wednesday of month at 1:00 pm

Halfmoon Historical Society: Last Tuesday of month at 7:00 pm

Open Space & Trails Committee: October 17th & December 19th

Resident Relations Committee: TBD

Business & Economic Development Committee: TBD

REPORTS OF BOARD MEMBERS AND TOWN ATTORNEY

Kevin J. Tollisen (Town Supervisor)

There are many community events on the calendar that we hope you will consider coming to. The Holiday Tree Lighting is probably my favorite event of the year. It is the kickoff to the holiday season. It is an amazing tribute to those individuals who have passed away. The memorial trees, it is always the best part when they are lit all together on that night. It is like the beginning of the season. If you have never come to it, please do. If you have come to it, I know that you will come back because it's just awesome.

I have two items that I would like to address this evening and both are budgetary. The 2017 budget is up for adoption this evening. In past meeting I have gone through the budget highlights and I will hit them again briefly

TOWN BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The Town of Halfmoon relies on two major sources of revenue for the Town budget, mortgage tax and sales tax. This year's Town Budget figures are the result of a number of different statistical data and analyses. The Town Supervisor and Town Budget Officer reviewed actual statistical data of the Town budgets over the past five-year period and then compared it with recent trends to formulate the budget. The Town Budget is based on very conservative fiscal expenditures and revenues for the 2017 budget year.

NO GENERAL FUND TOWN PROPERTY TAX

This budget marks the 38th consecutive year there is no general fund Town tax to be levied with the residents of the Town of Halfmoon.

GENERAL, HIGHWAY and WATER FUND

The Town Budget shows that there has been a small decrease in health insurance costs due to changes made with the Town's health insurance renewal. There is a two percent (2%) raise budgeted for elected officials and a \$1.25 per hour raise for all year-round Town employees. This raise is to compensate for increased minimum wage and the fact that the Town can no

longer fully fund the deductible. There have also been reductions in NYS retirement forecasted billing estimates.

The 2017 budget also takes into account a small increase in the expected sales tax the Town will receive based on the better than anticipated 2016 amount.

The Town will not rely upon using any of its unappropriated fund balance for the 2017 General or Highway budgets. The Water fund will use \$200,000 of fund balance to pay the 2017 settlement with the Town of Waterford.

The general fund portion of the budget increased 4.08 percent from the 2016 adopted budget.

The Highway fund portion of the budget shows a larger increase over the 2016 adopted budget due to implementation of phase II of the Highway Tax. As the public will remember, the Town held 7 public workshops last year before making the difficult decision of implementing a highway tax. The Town will have a total tax levy of \$1,224,000 in 2017 to ensure the Town maintains roads and equipment according to the Town's 20-year capital plan. The Highway Budget will be supplemented with revenue that will be generated by sales tax and State monies received thru the CHIPS program.

The Water fund portion of the budget will increase over last year's budget. The water fund budget operating portion increased from the previous year based upon the Town's continuing to purchase water from the City of Troy due to GE's dredging of the Hudson River and we will no longer receive money from EPA. The settlement with the Town of Waterford also attributes to the increase.

Overall, the Town budget for 2017 increased \$1,353,627 over the adopted 2016 budget, which is due to the factors previously stated in the Highway and Water funds.

PROVIDING NEEDED SERVICES

Our residents continue to use needed services provided by the Town. For example, over 1000 seniors actively participate in the Senior Center's educational and recreational programs, along with other services. Meals-on-Wheels, Day to Day activities, planned trips and senior van use are important and vital services provided to the seniors. The Town has made great strides in updating the Fleet used to carry the Seniors, including the receipt of four different grants for senior services.

For our youth, the Summer Recreation Program enrolled just over 500 children this past summer. The Character Counts program is integrated into the programming for all summer recreation participants whose ages range from pre-school to 15 years old.

The Town partners, with several non-profit organizations, to provide support to Halfmoon children, seniors and families in need. These partnerships include: CAPTAIN, Center for the Family, Care-Links, and the YMCA Reach Out for Youth program. The programs offered by these organizations are essential components of our Town as they provide educational, financial, emotional, psychological and other support to those in need.

SLOW ECONOMIC IMPROVEMENT CONTINUES TO AFFECT HALFMOON

The slowly improving national economy continues to present realistic challenges to the Town. Sales and mortgage tax figures for the calendar year 2016 to date have been higher than budgeted. The Town has made significant cuts in certain areas of health insurance, reducing costs while maintaining stable coverage for its employees. The Town has also been recently approved for a state sponsored program thru NYSERDA for solar panels to be placed at the Halfmoon Water Treatment facility. They will be installed at no cost to the Town but will result in significant savings in utility bills that the Town pays monthly. It is expected that this 2-year project will have full implementation early next year. Lastly, over the past few years, the Town refunded bonds resulting in substantial savings to Town residents. Conservative budgeting and spending will continue as the Town finds more ways to cut its expenses.

GRANT FUNDING

The Town continues to aggressively pursue federal, state and other grants. These grant awards have been and will continue to be used for road, sewer, water, energy efficiency improvements, sidewalk, park, trail, recreational, and court projects. These are projects that would have otherwise been funded exclusively by the Town or would have been deferred due to the lack of funds.

AUDITOR AND BOND RATING AGENCY EVALUATIONS OF TOWN FINANCES

Annually, the Town's finances are examined by an independent auditing firm. For the most recently completed fiscal year 2015, the CPA Firm, Bollam, Sheedy, Torani & Company issued the following opinion regarding the Town's financial statements and internal controls:

"In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of each governmental fund, the fiduciary fund, and each account group of the Town of Halfmoon, New York as of December 31, 2015 and the changes in financial position of each governmental fund for the year then ended, in accordance with the accounting and reporting practices permitted by the New York State Office of the State Comptroller..."

The Town of Halfmoon continues to have a very strong credit rating as reflected by Moody's 2015 rating of the Town with its "Aa3" designation and the removal of the negative outlook. Another rating company, Standard and Poor maintained the Town's AA bond rating with a stable outlook. Moody's report stated:

"The town does not levy a general town property tax and derives the majority of its revenues from sales tax (68% of 2014 operating revenues). While historical budget to actual results for this economically sensitive revenue has been negative, recent years have improved with stronger receipts and more conservative budgeting. Of note, the town is considering implementing a highway tax that could come as early as fiscal 2016. A new revenue source would provide greater operating flexibility and reduce its dependence on economically sensitive revenues." (Moody's Investors Service Report, September 14, 2015).

Supervisor Tollisen: When I entered office, the General Fund balance was \$70,000. Because of conservative budgeting and good mortgage and sales tax and the hard work of this town board, it's now \$1.6 million dollars. When I entered office 3 years ago, the highway budget was over \$500,000 in the negative. There was no reflection of the Highway Superintendent. It was a mathematical issue with respect to a prior employee of the town. As far as the budget at this point, our deficit has been eliminated and there is \$350,000 sitting in our fund balance for our highway department. The town obviously is on its path to improvement financially. I do think that the struggling economy is growing a little bit but it is still struggling. We are going to continue to monitor the budget, continue to make cuts where needed and please understand that when we set this budget tonight, we just don't tuck it away on a shelf. This sits on my desk throughout the year. My Budget Director and I meet every month and run the statistics and keep a close eye on all of these things.

The **2017 County Budget** has maintained a stable tax rate for decades. In 2017 the projected tax levy is \$56.9 million. This is the most critical part; the unfunded state mandates that we have to pay for will consume \$56.3 million of that amount. That is 99.3% of the tax levy. Last year's state mandates exceeded our tax levy by \$2.7 million which was over 5% of the total collected property tax. The county increase in the budget is 1.77%. The average homeowner will pay on a \$150,000 assessed value will pay \$6.00 a year. On a \$350,000 house, they will pay \$14.00 a year or \$1.16 a month. The County Board of Supervisors has made an aggressive effort to increase our police protection. We are looking to making a very large effort for more police protection and boots on the ground. We need more Deputies. I am proud to say that public safety is going to be an A+ top priority for the county budget this year. I will vote for that every single time. The county continues to have the lowest sales tax rate in the NYS and one of the lowest property taxes as well. That is my summary of the budget.

Paul Hotaling (Deputy Supervisor): (1) Chair of Parks & Recreation, (2) Chair of Town Infrastructure (Water, Highway, Building & Maintenance), (3) Chair of Character Counts, (4) Chair of Personnel Committee, (5) Chair of Safety Committee

One thing that I want to make sure that everybody knew is that there are not just cuts in this budget, we have a great staff. We have done a lot with a little in this town. Hat's off to each Department Manager, to this Board and to the Supervisor. We have been very proactive. We have gotten several grants for our handicap senior vans. We are taking delivery of a new van this Friday. We also got our first State grant for a handicap vehicle.

This Saturday is a very busy day in town. We are having our food drive here and this room will be transformed into the food center for the drive. At 10:00 in the morning we will be packing baskets and turkeys to over 100 families in town. Anybody is welcome to come and help. We appreciate it. I need to thank a gentleman named Mike Raucci who pours his whole heart into make this happen. We have had the folks from Sheldon Hills here with carloads of food. Waterford – Halfmoon Auxiliary, they stop in daily and drop off food, our town employees and residents, we thank you for all of your support.

John Wasielewski (Town Board Member): (1) Chair of Ethics Committee, (2) Chair of Committee on Emergency Services and Public Safety (Emergency Corps, Fire Department, Police); (3) Chair of Committee on Resident Relations, (4) Liaison to Planning Board

Thank you Mr. Supervisor, I don't have anything to report from my committee assignments, but I do want to thank you for all of your hard work and Miss Hatter's work going line by line on our budget.

I had the opportunity to tour the Town Highway Garage with the Highway Superintendent, John Pingelski. The urgent need for replacement and upgrading the equipment was shocking to me. Many years of no new equipment purchases or upgrades have resulted in this, as I would call a crisis situation. Many residents will tell you that the condition of the roads have deteriorated because of the lack of the upgrades. I think that we have turned the tide on that matter and I just want to thank you again on your hard work and to John Pingelski's for his. Thank you.

Daphne Jordan (Town Board Member): (1) Chair of Business and Economic Development (2) Chair of Insurance (Liability and Medical) (3) Liaison to Open Space and Trails Committee, (4) Zoning Board Liaison

I have no report this evening.

Jeremy Connors (Town Board Member): (1) Liaison to Planning Board; (2) Chair of Animal Control Committee (3) Chair of Committee on Not for Profit Organizations; (4) Co-Chair of Business & Economic Development Committee (5) Chair of Committee for Baseball/Athletic Organizations

I just want to make a few statements to echo the words of Councilman Wasielewski. I know that it is difficult during budget season and you have made every effort to whittle things down and provide the best in services to us in town. I know that our Highway Superintendent works diligently with the equipment that he has available to him to ensure that our roads are safe and our infrastructure is as up to date as much as possible so thank you for that.

Also, with the holidays coming up, I just want everybody to take a moment and remember those who are less fortunate. If you do have an opportunity to come out and help this Saturday at the Food Drive at 10:00 am, that would be great. I had the opportunity last year with my daughter to go and deliver to numerous homes and people really appreciate all of the donations that are brought in. I would especially like to recognize Mr. Michael Raucci from New Country Toyota in his efforts every year to ensure that families throughout the capital district don't go

hungry. I cannot thank him enough personally and professionally for what he does. He has the heart the size of Texas and is always willing to give back to the community whether it is for a youth function or anything here in the town for our people and I truly thank him for that.

Lynda Bryan (Town Clerk): (1) Chair of Senior Programs, (2) Chair of Committee on Historical Archives (3) Co-Chair on Residence Relations Committee

As Paul said, Saturday is a very busy day and along with the Food Drive the **Senior Center** is hosting their Holiday Bazaar this Saturday from 9-2. Come and see all the Crafters, Quilters and Jewelry Makers along with Grandma's Treasures and the best Baked Goods around. Please come and support our seniors!

The Halfmoon Historical Society will be holding their monthly meeting on Tuesday November 29th at 7:00 pm. They will be presenting the final segment of the Halfmoon in the beginning. They will be talking about the land grants and the conflicts in the Halfmoon area. If you are interested please come and join us!

Amanda Smith (Recreation Director): (1) Liaison to Halfmoon Celebrations Committee

Lyn Murphy, Esq., (Town Attorney)

Cathy Drobny, Esq. (Town Attorney)

PUBLIC COMMENT (for discussion of agenda topics) No one came forward

DEPARTMENT REPORTS – month of October

1. **Town Clerk Fees Submitted to the Supervisor - \$11,246.56**

DEPARTMENT MANAGER MONTHLY REPORTS – (Can be viewed at the Town Clerk's Office) month of October

Planning Department, Animal Control, Water Department

CORRESPONDENCE

1. **Received** from the West Crescent Fire District their 2017 Adopted Budget Summary

Received & Filed

2. **Received** from Clifton Park – Halfmoon Public Library their 2017 Approved Budget

Received & Filed

3. **Received** from the Two Towns – One Book Clifton Park & Halfmoon Community Read, the 2017 Winning Book of Noon at Tiffany's by Echo Heron. Events planned around the theme of this book will be announced in January.

Received & Filed

4. **Received** from the US Army Corps of Engineers, a copy of the response letter sent to Bruce Tanski addressing his request for authorization for the discharge of fill materials into waters of the United States for the construction of a 65 lot townhouse subdivision on Farm to Market Road

Received & Filed

5. Received from the Superintendent of Highways notification that they will return to their winter hours of Monday through Friday 7am – 3pm as of November 21, 2016. The Transfer Station hours will remain the same as will the Senior Dispatch

Received & Filed

6. Received from the NYS Department of State, notification of their filing of Local Law #9-2016, overriding the Tax Levy on November 4, 2016

Received & Filed

7. Received from the NYS Department of State, notification of their filing of Local Law #10-2016, Halfmoon Village PDD on November 4, 2016

Received & Filed

8. Received from Halfmoon-Waterford Fire District #1, notice of the Annual Election to take place on Tuesday, December 13th from 6 – 9:00 pm at 315 Middletown Road for the purpose of electing (1) one Fire Commissioner, for a five-year term, to commence January 1, 2017 and end December 31, 2021.

Received & Filed

9. Received from NYS Department of Transportation, the results of the traffic signal study for Route 9 & the Stone Quarry intersection. They conclude that there has not been a pattern of accidents that would be correctable by a traffic signal and that there is sufficient sight distance. They noted that the STOP bars for Stone Quarry Road are unnecessarily far from the intersection and they will relocate them closer

Received & Filed

OLD BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 383

Offered by Councilman Wasielewski, seconded by Councilwoman Jordan: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby awards the construction contract for the Sitterly Road Pavement Preservation Project to Prime Highway Contractors, LLC in the not to exceed amount of three hundred thirty nine thousand four hundred forty seven dollars and twenty four cents (\$339,447.24) and to authorize the Supervisor to execute any necessary documentation associated with their services on this project, subject to the review and approval of the Town Attorney.

Supervisor Tollisen:

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 384

Offered by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Hotaling: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves and orders paid Vouchers numbered 2336 - 2441

===== FUND TOTALS =====

10 GENERAL FUND

\$307,056.55

20 HIGHWAY FUND	\$77,567.41
25 SPECIAL REVENUE	\$692.96
30 CONSOLIDATED WATER	\$15,552.35
35 MISC. CAPITAL FUNDS	\$67,303.10
65 LIGHTING DIST	\$435.81
70 WATER DISTRICT #1	\$6,123.01

ABSTRACT TOTAL:	\$474,731.19
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RESOLUTION NO. 386

Offered by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Wasielewski: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, & Connors
Abstain: Jordan

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the minutes of Town Board meeting of November 02, 2016 as presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 386

Offered by Councilman Hotaling, seconded by Councilman Wasielewski: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

RESOLVED, that the Town Board accepts the Town Clerk's Certificate of No Filing for using Water Fund Capital Reserve for funding to acquire equipment and vehicles for the Town of Halfmoon in the amount of \$185,000.

RESOLUTION NO. 387

Offered by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Hotaling: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

RESOLVED, that the Town Board accepts the Town Clerk's Certificate of No Filing for using General Fund Capital Reserve for funding to acquire Equipment, Vehicles, Materials A/C Heating System and Computer & Technology related equipment/upgrades for the Town of Halfmoon in the amount of \$205,000.

RESOLUTION NO. 388

Offered by Councilwoman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Connors: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

RESOLVED, that that the Town Board authorizes a supplement to the 2016 contract to Barton & Logudice in the not to exceed amount of \$2,000 due to the increased volume of services required for grant projects.

RESOLUTION NO. 389

Offered by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Hotaling: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to send a letter to the NYS Department of Transportation stressing the need of reducing the speed limit of Ponderosa Drive and adjoining developments from 30 mph to 25 mph. for the safety of the residents.

Councilman Wasielewski: I have a question on the motion. When it says adjoining developments, can you be more specific?

Supervisor Tollisen: What my intention of this is that we should be able to post any development with a 25 mph speed throughout the town. Again, this is not something that the DOT has allowed the Town of Halfmoon to do in the past. Mr. Henry is here with us tonight. This is a specific resolution where we have had our highway speed monitor there. We have had the Sheriff's patrol there and what we are trying to do is set a prescient to get the speeds of 30 mph to be less and have people comply with it. We have been working on that on Ponderosa Drive and other areas in town. I think that it is time that an actual letter come from not only a resolution from the Town Board but a more potent letter from my office that states that this is something that is not going to go away and is something that is asked for and requested quite often and something that we should be able to do. So we are asking for that and am I confident that it will happen? I don't know, but if we don't continue to ask and continue to set forth an argument that this something that needs to happen, it won't happen.

RESOLUTION NO. 390

Offered by Councilman Hotaling, seconded by Councilman Wasielewski: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, & Connors
Nay: Jordan

RESOLVED, that the Preliminary Budget as amended be and is hereby adopted as the 2017 Budget for the Town of Halfmoon, and further;

Resolution that the 2017 Budget be copied in its entirety in the 2016 Minutes Book of the Town of Halfmoon.

Supervisor Tollisen: Any further discussion?

Councilwoman Jordan: Yes, I have discussion. I am sorry but I am going to be voting no on the budget. I know that a lot of time and thought and care were put into the budget by our Supervisor, all of us on the Town Board and the Budget Officer. I know that Supervisor Tollisen is doing the right thing. He is trying to make everything right in our town, the way it should be. It has been a tremendous job for the past few years and no one other than Supervisor Tollisen could have done it any better. So you ask why am I voting no? I am because I'm thinking that it should be done over a bit more time. The Highway Tax is the leading cost in our budget. Actually, our budget has increased by 11% over last year's budget and I just think that it's too much at once. We are trying to do too much at once and we need to step back and take some baby steps and maybe cut that into a couple years and next year finish what we are doing with the Highway Tax. So, last year after 7 public hearings, we decided to implement the Highway Tax. It really is the only way that we can maintain all of the roads we have in the Town of Halfmoon while the roads keep getting more miles every year with all of the developments, and also, it is the only way we can replace our unsafe highway equipment with new safe equipment. That being said, we couldn't implement the full Highway Tax last year as the Supervisor explained before because if we had, we would have overridden the tax cap and none of us would have been receiving our tax rebate checks. I got mine in the mail today so you will all be getting yours soon too. We at that time, thought that we would divide the Highway Tax into two. Last year I had some reservations on that and stated that I had concerns that it might not be able to be done just in two years, but that it might take a little longer. I really believe that when I look at the 11% overall tax increase for the full implementation, that we are just doing too much at once. Critics of what I'm saying have valid points and those are, first, that the longer a road sits and needs repair, it deteriorates all the faster and in the end costs us more to maintain it. This fact is a balancing factor on the other side and I understand that. Another valid point that could be made is that this year there is no penalty to municipalities that override the tax cap; the onus is on the school

districts this year for the 2017 budget. I have to say that the tax cap is set by the state and the law has it such that it would be either 2% or the rate of inflation, whichever is lower. This year the ridiculous amount is .68%, not even 2%. We are going well beyond the .68% and we are even going beyond the 2% and I just feel like it is a little much. But this would be the year to do it because there is no penalty if we were going to override by that much.

I have stated my reasons for voting no. I am a coupon clipper. I have had experience with having some harder times where even a \$100 more on my tax bill would have just been awful and I just think that I would have liked to have seen it divided up a little bit more.

POLL OF THE BOARD

Councilman Connors	Aye
Councilwoman Jordan	Nay
Councilman Wasielewski	Aye
Councilman Hotaling	Aye
Supervisor Tollisen	Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 391

Offered by Councilman Wasielewski, seconded by Councilman Connors: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the 2016 annual stipend to the Clifton Park – Halfmoon Memorial VFW Post #1498 in the not to exceed amount of \$1,000.

RESOLUTION NO. 392

Offered by Councilwoman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Connors: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

“Inter-Municipal Agreement with the Town of Clifton Park
For Crescent Road Bike and Pedestrian Improvements”

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) has awarded a grant to the Town of Clifton Park as sponsor, and to the Town of Halfmoon, as partner, under the federal Transportation Enhancements Program (TEP) that provides Federal aid for highway projects which are not on the state highway system, and that may qualify for aid under the “Marchiselli Program” to construct a sidewalk and/or multi-use path on Crescent Road, from Okte Elementary School to Dunsbach Road; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board previously authorized the Town Supervisor to enter into an Inter-Municipal Agreement with Clifton Park for the Crescent Road Bike and Pedestrian Improvements requiring a sponsor match of \$131,000 for each community, and

WHEREAS, the total costs estimated in 2009 have increased thereby requiring each Town’s 10% share to increase; and

WHEREAS, the increased responsibility for each Town is \$85,600 for a total sponsor match of \$216,600 from each town;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to enter into an Inter-Municipal Agreement with Clifton Park for the Crescent Road Bike and Pedestrian Improvements.

RESOLUTION NO. 393

Offered by Councilman Wasielewski, seconded by Councilman Connors: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the Supervisor's Report for the month of October, 2016 as presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 394

Offered by Councilwoman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Connors: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to accept a grant from Saratoga County in the amount of \$11,250 for the Champlain Connecting Trail and hereby authorizes the Supervisor to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the transfer of the funds, per the review and approval of the Town Attorney.

RESOLUTION NO. 395

Offered by Councilwoman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Connors: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the receipt of the \$90,795 awarded by the New York State Department of State Local Waterfront Revitalization Program for the Halfmoon Waterfront Connection Project, per the review and approval of the Town Attorney.

RESOLUTION NO. 396

Offered by Councilwoman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Hotaling: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

WHEREAS, the Town Board is cognizant of the importance of creating recreational opportunities for residents to safely enjoy, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has authorized entering into an Inter-Municipal Agreement with Clifton Park for the Crescent Road Bike and Pedestrian Improvements, and

WHEREAS, the Inter – Municipal Agreement requires that the Town be responsible for costs detailed in the agreement and for the acquisition of right of way necessary for the construction of the Crescent Road Bike and Pedestrian Improvements occurring in the Town of Halfmoon,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the expenditure of an \$85,325.00, said monies to come from the Recreation Fees located in the Special Revenue Fund, and to authorize the Supervisor to sign and all documentation needed to proceed with this project, subject to the review and approval of the Town Attorney.

RESOLUTION NO. 397

Offered by Councilman Hotaling, seconded by Councilman Connors: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Jordan & Connors

10-5-9010.80- Employee Benefits- State Retirement	10-5-8160.10 Transfer Station-Pers Services	\$9,000	Transfer to cover expenses thru year end
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The following creation of appropriations is needed in the General Fund based on money received for newsletter advertising to date. This creation is for the quarterly distribution of the Halfmoon Navigator.

DEBIT:	Estimated Revenues	10-510	\$1,300
	Subsidiary: Other, Misc-Newsletter		
	10-4-2770.10 – \$1,300		
CREDIT:	Appropriations	10-960	\$1,300
	Subsidiary: Public Information & Serv		
	10-5-1480.40 - \$1,300		

A resolution is necessary to create appropriations within the Special Revenue fund from recreation fees to increase the Crescent Road Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements Project in the amount of \$85,325.

Debit:	Appropriated Fund Balance	25-599	\$85,325
Credit:	Appropriations	25-960	\$85,325
	Subsidiary: 25-5-9950.90 - \$85,325		
	Transfer to Capital Projects		

An increase to the creation of appropriations is necessary for the Crescent Road Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements Project with Clifton Park. The Towns of Halfmoon and Clifton Park are constructing a sidewalk on Crescent Road from Okte School to Dunsbach Road. The total project has increased to \$2,166,000 of which the Town of Halfmoon's local share match is \$216,600 therefore an increase is necessary in the amount of \$80,350 plus \$4,975 to cover the just compensation for temporary and permanent easements necessary for the multi-use path, which will be funded from Recreation Fees.

Debit:	Estimated Revenues	35-510	\$85,325
	Subsidiary: 35-4-5031 - \$85,325		
	Interfund Transfers		
Credit:	Appropriations	35-960	\$85,325
	Subsidiary: 35-5-7150.20 - \$85,325		
	Culture & Recreational – Parks		

A resolution is necessary to close out the project budgetary accounts for the Hudson River Park Construction Ph II. The project budget was \$375,000 which was funded by grant monies and recreation fees from the Special Revenue Fund. Money left over will be returned to the Special Revenue Fund.

Debit:	Appropriations	35-960	\$375,000
	Subsidiary: 35-5-7150.23 - \$375,000		
	Culture & Recreational – Parks		
Credit:	Estimated Revenues	35-510	\$375,000
	Subsidiary: 35-4-3897.00 - \$187,500		
	Cultural & Rec Grants		
	35-4-5031 - \$187,500		
	Interfund Transfers		

PUBLIC COMMENT (for discussion of non-agenda items)

Jack Henry, 52 Ponderosa Drive: I want to speak about the resolution for Ponderosa Drive and Supervisor Tollisen's letter to the DOT. The Board has already passed a resolution like this. It is different this time with Supervisor Tollsien asking for a town wide reduction in the speed limit which is good. What I am wondering is if there is some kind of plan that we can put in place in the event that DOT rejects that resolution. What I have come to discover with the documentation that I have, that the problem is actually worse. I wonder what the Board or John Pingelski will do in the event if DOT rejects it as they have done in the past.

Councilwoman Jordan: I am wondering, is there perhaps state legislation that could be put forth?

Jack Henry: The NYS statute is 30 mph and it cannot be changed without a bill. I appreciate the town's interest and concern

Supervisor Tollisen: What we are going to do Jack, just to clarify and summarize once again what we are going to request it from DOT. There is going to be a letter that is coming from my office with the reasons therefore. If it gets rejected for that reason, then we will be discussing it Senator Marchione and Assemblywoman elect Walsh. We are going to continue to stay on this as much as possible. Not only is it an issue with speed in your development but there are a number of other developments that have requested it also. As you know we have contracted with the Sheriff's Department and as much as they are able, they have been extremely helpful in trying to combat the issue of speeding. Unfortunately, a lot of the statistics show that a lot of the speeding occurs from your own people who live your neighborhood. That is a two edged sword for sure. We will continue to work on it. We are working on Ponderosa Drive specifically. You and I have had several meetings about it and are continuing to do that. The Highway Superintendent has been working with and talking with the Village of Colonie. We are looking at a different perspective besides the speed monitor and are looking at different signage there. We are looking at a number of different facets with respect to your development as well as others.

Jack Henry: Is there any reason why speed humps are such an issue?

Supervisor Tollisen: The Highway Superintendent has made it clear and we have discussed it several times that speed humps are not something that the town is looking at this point. There are just as many negative components of speed humps including the effect on our highway equipment #1, and #2 it has been shown statistically that with speed humps cars speed up between speed humps. You can't put in that many speed humps in a development or you are going to have people claiming that cars are being hurt or something like that. Speed humps are a legitimate request, I understand that. It is just that this point, the Town Board and the town Highway Superintendent feels that this is not the way to go at this point.

Jack Henry: Thank you.

There being no further business to discuss or resolve, on a motion by Councilman Wasielewski and seconded by Councilman Connors, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynda A. Bryan, Town Clerk